

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 10, with the following paragraph:

--In operation, an ATM-based RAN signaling message sent by RNC **102** is received by HSL module **502** of RAN gateway ~~[[302]]~~ **304**. In one embodiment, HSL module **502** may remove the lower level ATM protocol component of the message, and internally route the message to rDCM communication module **410**. HSL module **502** internally routes SS7 messages by examining the destination point code (DPC) in the message and converting the DPC into an internal card address.--